



The Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) is a project of the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) that started in 2012 with the aim to grow the Self-Advocacy movement in California through training leaders and sharing information. SSAN serves as a connection between SCDD and other state agencies, nonprofits and advocacy groups that serve people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Statewide Self Advocacy Network

Annual Report

October 1, 2017- September
30, 2018

State Council on Developmental Disabilities
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Table of Contents



SSAN Mission Statement	5
Message from the Chair	6
SCDD State Plan Self Advocacy Goal	7
SSAN Member Roster	8
SSAN Officers	9
2017-2018 SSAN Meetings	9
2017-2018 SSAN Accomplishments	10
Legislative Updates	10-12
Presentations and Trainings	13-18
Barriers to Outreach	19
Organization & Operating work	19
Resource Sharing	20-26
General Information	27
SSAN Members- Pictures	28-34
Statewide Activity Highlights	35
Work Group Information	36-37
Plans for the Future	38
Words from two SSAN members	39
Members in Action	40-41
Newsletter Editions	42

Mission Statement

The Statewide Self Advocacy Network (SSAN) promotes leadership and builds bridges that strengthen advocacy among disability communities by focusing on policy change.



State of California
Department of Developmental Services



University Center for Excellence
in Developmental Disabilities



ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL CENTER AGENCIES



Message from SSAN Chair

As I end my term as the SSAN chairperson, I want to say how proud I am of my fellow SSAN members for their hard work and dedication from October 2017- September 2018.

I am proud of the SSAN officers in working together on the first SSAN Leadership training for the officers. We learned tools to put it into practice.



We had very good information at our 4 meetings. Some of the presentations were given by SSAN members. Some of the topics included:

- “How I got Hired” and Benefits of Employment
- Mock Job Interviews & LEAP Hiring
- An Autism Panel
- Vendor Process for Day Programs
- ABLE Act Update
- Mental Health Awareness – tools & tips
- Self Determination Orientation Materials by DDS- gave in put
- Updates to the ADA
- Building Accessibility- tools and tips
- Published 4 newsletters with articles written by SSAN members
- Resource Table- resources shared among members to take back to our communities statewide

SSAN members have worked really hard to accomplish the goals of the SCDD State Plan in their regions and beyond. Members encourage the unity of SSAN and it is a great fellowship. The four work groups (Employment, Legislative, Newsletter, and Self Determination) helped build leadership skills and team work.

SSAN will continue to advance the self-advocacy movement in California and it is important to stress that we need to move towards encouraging youth to the movement. They are our future.

Robert Balderama
SSAN Chair





2017-2021 STATE PLAN

Self-Advocacy Goal

Goal 1: Californians with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families reflecting the diversity of the state will have increased information and supports to advocate for civil and service rights to achieve self-determination, integration and inclusion in all areas of community life

Objective 1.2

The Council will promote self-advocates in leadership roles in statewide networks a) through strengthening of a statewide self-advocacy organization and by supporting self-advocates; b) within cross-disability leadership coalitions; and c) in training other self-advocates to become leaders.

SSAN Members (Roster) 2017-2018

- North Coast Region – Vacant
- North State Region – Teresa Moshier
- Sacramento Region – Lisa Cooley
- North Bay Region– Chen Curtiss
- Bay Area Region– Regina Woodliff
- North Valley Hills Region – Robert Balderama
- Central Coast Region– Vacant
- Sequoia Region– Rebecca Donabed
- Los Angeles Region– Julie Gaona
- Orange County Region– Robert Levy
- San Bernardino Region– Daniel Fouste
- San Diego Region– Paul Mansell
- Association of Regional Center Agencies – Desiree Boykin
- California Foundation of Independent Living Centers – Christina Mills
- Department of Developmental Services – Nicole Patterson
- Disability Rights California – Marinda Reed & Scott Baron
- State Council on Developmental Disabilities – David Forderer/Wesley Witherspoon
- University Center on Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) UC Davis MIND Institute – Robert Levy
- UCEDD UCLA Tarjan Center – Kecia Weller
- UCEDD USC – Wesley Witherspoon



SSAN Officers

Robert Balderama, Chair
Julie Gaona, Vice Chair
Rebecca Donabed, Secretary

2017-2018 SSAN Meetings

SSAN held 4 meetings between October 1, 2017 and September 30, 2018. Meetings were held on December 6-7, 2017, March 28-29, 2018, June 27-28, 2018 and September 5-6, 2018.

Each SSAN meeting included member reports on issues and concerns in their regions, legislative updates, training for members, and resources to distribute to member's communities.



From Paul Mansell - representative from San Diego Imperial Regional Office

“SSAN is a positive voice, expressing the wants, needs and concerns of self-advocates in California.”

2017-2018 SSAN Accomplishments

What We Do

- ☐ *Develop the knowledge and skills to make a difference in our region and state.*
- ☐ *Speak up for people with disabilities.*
- ☐ *Learn about and advocate for issues important to people with disabilities.*
- ☐ *Lead regional and statewide advocacy groups and networks*

~SSAN Bylaws

Legislative Updates 2017-2018

Members received legislative updates and information on SCDD supported Legislation and these issues:



LEGISLATION:

- AB 1909 – Nazarian, Require that California Department of Social Services provide translation of written materials in languages that are spoken by the substantial portion of the population.
- AB 1985 – Ting, Clarify that disability is protected under the law, regardless of whether it is temporary, permanent, congenital, or acquired as a part of officer training
- AB 2159 – Chu, The bill would make a failure to implement the fraud prevention measures established by the bill subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000, or if the violation is willful, a civil penalty not to exceed \$5,000.
- AB 2171 – Frazier, “One Person One Goal”: Agreement between Department of Education, Department of Developmental Services and Department of Rehabilitation to ensure seamless and coordinated delivery of services to support Employment First

- AB 2244 – Acosta, This bill would deem a request from a regional center for prior written authorization approved by the State Department of Developmental Services if the department does not act on the request within 30 calendar days of receipt of the request, unless the director, in his or her discretion, determines that additional time is reasonably necessary to fully and fairly evaluate the request, as specified.
- AB 2253 – Irwin, Repeal the \$100,000 cap on CalABLE accounts
- AB 2291 – Chu, Mandates that schools develop policies and procedures aimed at prevention of bullying
- AB 2331 – Weber, Require consumers to disclose whether they receive Medi-Cal as a part of the intake process
- AB 2408 – Weber, Restricts the use of seclusion and restraint except a students' behavior presents imminent danger to them or others
- AB 2430 – Arambula, Require that countable income over 100% to 138% of federal poverty level not be counted when considering payments related to SSI/SSP
- AB 2587 – Levine, Remove the 7-day wait period from the temporary family disability application process
- AB 2623 – Holden, Amend the Welfare and Institution Code to include adjustments for increase in federal minimum wage and require that provider rates be no less than federal minimum wage
- AB 2657 – Weber, Restricts the use of seclusion and restraint except a students' behavior presents imminent danger to them or others
- AB 2704 – O'Donnell, Increase the grant amount awarded to Family Empowerment Centers on Disabilities from \$150,00 to \$223,000 to account for cost of living increases
- AB 2846 – Grayson, Would require local jurisdictions issuing building permits for commercial construction to provide notice and information regarding disability access
- AB 3006 – Stone, The bill would require each county welfare department to designate one staff person to serve as the Deaf and Hard

of Hearing Coordinator, as described, for the delivery of child welfare services in the county to children who are deaf and hard of hearing.

- AB 3074 – Frazier, The bill would specify the maximum hours of tailored day services that may be authorized in conjunction with existing services under these provisions.
- AB 3127 – Acosta, This bill would deem a request from a regional center for prior written authorization approved by the State Department of Developmental Services if the department does not act on the request within 30 calendar days of receipt of the request, unless the director, in his or her discretion, determines that additional time is reasonably necessary to fully and fairly evaluate the request, as specified.
- AB 3158 – Mathis, establishes a 90-day building accessibility compliance period for businesses
- AB 3200 – Kalra, Reinstates the cost of living adjustment to the SSI/SSP program
- SB 354 – Portantino, Expand the definition of “parent” to include educational rights holder and conservator of the child.
- SB 1011 – Roth, Require conservators be included in an individuals’ IPP process
- SB 1190 – Skinner, Require that State Department of State Hospitals and State Department of Developmental Services to place identification markers on sites that acknowledge past history of sterilization of people
- SB 1191 – Hueso, Would require local law enforcement agencies, as defined, and adult protective services agencies and long-term care ombudsman programs to revise or include in their policy manuals, as defined, specified information regarding elder and dependent adult abuse. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.
- SB 1274 – McGuire, Data sharing bill to show how Employment First Policy impacts use of CalWORKs and CalFRESH
- SB 1320 – Stern, Require that the California Department of Education, the Chancellor of California Community Colleges, California State

University system and potentially the Universities of California system to set up a data tracking system to track student data

Presentations and Training 2017-2018

Members **received** presentations and training on:

- Bagley Keene
- “How I got Hired” and Benefits of Employment
- Mock Job Interviews & LEAP Hiring
- An Autism Panel
- Vendor Process for Day Programs
- ABLE Act Update
- Mental Health Awareness – tools & tips
- Self Determination Orientation Materials by DDS- gave in put
- Updates to the ADA
- Building Accessibility- tools and tips

Presentations & Trainings provided and/or attended by SSAN Members

SSAN members provided different types of presentations and trainings throughout the state as well as attended events. Presentation and training topics related to the SCDD State Plan goals & objectives were:

Goal 1 Self Advocacy (60 events = 2534 participants)

- 10/20 Celebration of Self-Advocacy @ Ed Roberts Campus-Berkeley – 45 SA 35 Other
- “Is Self-Determination Right for Me?” – 35 SA
- SDP training – 200-210 SA/Other
- Lincoln Training Center (Self-Advocacy) – 29 SA 5 Other
- Antelope Valley Path Point (Self- Advocacy) – 29 SA 5 Other
- Ester Seals San Pedro (Self-Advocacy) – 29 SA 5 Other
- ETTA (Self-Advocacy) – 30 SA 5 Other
- CECA ABLE Arts (Self-Advocacy) – 30 SA 5 Other
- Giant Steps (Self-Advocacy) – 30 SA 5 Other

- Valley Mountain Regional Center Board Self-Determination – 22 SA
- SAC 6 meeting
- Self-Advocacy Board of Los Angeles County – 37 SA 3 FA 13 Others
- Person Centered Planning – 1 SA
- Self-Advocacy – 46 SA
- CAC meeting – 36 SA
- FDC Choices Interviews – 16 Other
- San Francisco ADA Conference – 120 people
- Self-Determination – 40 SA 40 Other
- Westside Regional Board Meeting – 20 SA 15 FA 15 Other
- Bay Area People First Meeting – 16SA 2 Other
- Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee Meeting – 9 SA 8 FA 8 Other
- Consumer Advisory Meeting USC Children’s Hospital – 7 SA 7 FA
- Statewide Self-Determination Meeting – 21 SA 20 Others
- Self-Determination meeting – 7 SA
- North Bay Regional Advisory Committee – 1 SA 2 FA 2 Other
- VMRC Board Meeting – 6 SA 6 FA 5 Others
- VMRC Consumer Services – 5 SA 5 FA
- Self – Advocacy Council 6 meeting – 500 SA 100 FA
- ARCA CAC meeting – 14 SA 3 Other
- DDS CAC – 9 SA 6 FA 6 Other
- Access CAC – 10 SA 1 FA
- Los Angeles County Commission on Disability – 10 Other
- SSAN Self-Determination Workgroup Meeting – 6 SA 4 Other
- Alta Regional Center Self- Determination Advisory Committee meeting – 8 SA
- State Rehabilitation Council Meeting – 3 SA 10 FA 27 Other
- VERA Coalition Teleconference call – 10 SA 10 FA 20 Other
- Executive Planning Committee State Rehabilitation Council – 3 SA 7 FA 1 Other
- Hope Services Mentorship – 26 SA
- Self-Advocacy – 170 SA 10 Other
- IPP – 95 SA

- Panel on Cerebral Palsy – 15 SA 10 FA 20 Other
- DDS CAC Recruiting – 60 SA
- Bay Area RAC Meeting – 10 SA 8 FA 8 Others
- State Rehabilitation Council Meeting – 4 SA 13 FA 30 Others
- SCLAR CAC Meeting – 8 SA 0 FA 3 Others
- Bay Area People First – 9 SA 0 FA 3 Others
- People First of Alameda – 14 SA 0 FA 1 Others
- ARCA CAC Meeting – 13 SA 0 FA 3 Others
- SCLAR CAC Meeting – 8 SA 0 FA 3 Others
- Peer Support at Resource for Independence of the Central Valley
- State Council on Developmental Disabilities Panel on Autism
- Westside Regional Center Board of Directors Meeting – 25 SA 25 FA 25 Others
- SABLAC – 10 SA 0 FA 1 Others
- People First of Alameda – 12 SA 0 FA 1 Others
- ARCA CAC Meeting – 10 SA 0 FA 3 Others
- SCLAR CAC Meeting – 8 SA 0 FA 5 Others
- Disability Advisory Team
- SABLAC – 8 SA 0 FA 1 Others
- ARCA CAC meeting – 15 SA 0 FA 0 Others
- ARCA SDAC meeting – 3 SA 1 FA 5 Others

Goal 2 Employment (9 events = 403 participants)

- Employment – 25 SA 5 Other
- Employment – 10 SA
- San Jose Labor Hall Rally – 50 SA 50 FA 250 Other
- Employment Mixer – 0 SA 0 FA 13 Others

Goal 3 Housing (3 events= 40 participants)

- Housing and Section 8 – 16 SA
- Housing – 4 Other
- Lanterman Housing Alliance Workgroup

Goal 4 Health & Safety (27 events= 1075 participants)

- “Internet Safety” – 25 SA
- “Reporting Abuse of Dependent Adults” – 20 people
- Helping Health Professionals Discuss Sexual Violence with their Patients – 35 People
- Panel Discussion at Supported Life Conference – 40 people
- Silence = Violence presentation at Supported Life Conference – 30 people
- “How to Fire Your Attendant When Things Go Wrong” – 7 SA
- Peak Performance (Emergency Preparedness and IPPs) – 29 SA 6 Other
- Arc South Bay ADC Gardena (Crime Prevention and Self-Advocacy) – 29 SA 5 Other
- Independence Plus (Crime Prevention) – 29 SA 5 Other
- Villa Esperanza (Crime Prevention) – 29 SA 5 Other
- Emergency Preparedness – 7 SA
- PALS Downey (Emergency Preparedness) – 29 SA 5 Other
- Healthcare outreach/education – 20 Other
- Cal Lafe Independent Living Center IHSS Benefits – 15 SA 20 FA
- Los Angeles County Crime Prevention – 265 SA 23 Other
- Emergency Preparedness – 40 SA 6 Other
- Relationships and Independence – 20 SA 20 FA
- UC Davis Medical School – 2 SA 60 Other
- CA APS Multimedia Contest
- NCCJD and State Council on Developmental Disabilities # MeToo story
- Recovery Champions
- VERA Coalition – People with Disabilities/People of Color in person Meeting – 6 SA 11 FA 66 Others
- VERA Coalition Teleconference – 14 SA 13 FA 30 Others
- Silence = Violence Network Meeting – 2 SA 9 FA 10 Others
- UCP Meeting – 1 SA 0 FA 5 Others
- Peer Support – A Critical Component of the eAPS Response to Sexual Assault – 2 SA 25 FA 55 Others

Goal 5 Education (6 events = 115 participants)

- 9/27/2017 Presentation at Deer Valley High School in Antioch, CA about Employment, Independence and Self-Advocacy – 36 SA 10 Other
- Education – 1 SA
- Los Angeles School Meeting – 8 SA 23 Other
- San Jose Unified School District Special Education Advisory Commission – 25 Other
- Transition – 6 SA
- Fairfield Solano Community College – 1 SA 0 FA 5 Others

Wesley Witherspoon- representative from USC Childrens' Hospital

“SSAN is an essential guide for people with disabilities who want to be a part of society. SSAN gives members a bridge to a better life by explaining how to get what you want in easy step. The SSAN Newsletter is a must read for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.”



Goal 6 Formal & Informal Community Supports (24 events= 422 participants)

Goal 6: Community Supports

- RAC meeting – 5 SA 5 FA 5 Other
- Los Angeles County Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee – 5 SA 20 Other
- Burbank ABLE Inc. (Crime Prevention) – 30 SA 5 Other
- Cal ABLE
- Meetings with elected officials SA 2 FA Other 6
- ABLE Act – 2 SA
- EBSH Restraints Guidelines Work Group – 20 SA/Other
- California Democratic Disability Caucus meeting – 1 SA 1 Other
- Treat or Trunk

- Los Angeles County Registrar Voting Systems Assessment Project – 1 SA 2 Others
- Westside Regional Center Voting CAC – 10 SA 3 Other
- East Bay Legislative Breakfast – 50 SA 50 Other
- Social Services Transportation Advisory Committee – 2 SA 3 FA 6 Other
- ARCA Grass Roots Day – 17 SA 17 FA
- Vender Program Planning Meeting – 2 SA 3 Other
- Voting Independence Plus – 20
- Relationships and Independence – 20 SA 20 FA
- ABLE Act – 20 Other
- Transportation – 10 Other
- Suisun City Board Meeting – 1 SA 0 FA 15 Others
- Tulare County bus advisory council
- North State Regional Advisory Committee Meeting – 15 SA 0 FA 7 Others
- AMJAMB The Call Connection – 12 SA 0 FA 3 Others
- UC Davis Summer Institute – 1 SA 15 FA 50 Others

*Participants are Self-Advocates unless noted by a *, in that case the participants were a mixture of self-advocates, family advocates and other. In the reporting going forward- these counts will be collected.*

Total= 129 events = 4,589 participants

From Lisa Cooley-representative from Sacramento Regional Office



“Supporting the Self Determination Program in California will give all Californians with developmental disabilities the opportunity to have self-directed lives without limits!”

Barriers to Outreach

Transportation continues to be the number one barrier for SSAN members that prevents them from participating in their communities and in advocacy activities. The lack of public transportation options limits self-advocates' ability to attend events and meetings. Other barriers reported include:

- Work
- Time
- Finances
- Health issues
- Technology
- Being located far away from the regional office
- Issues with Paratransit
- Inconsistency with the level of education of Regional Center Staff
- Lack of interest in Self-Advocacy
- Lack of tools
- Lack of knowledge of people with disabilities in group homes
- Size of region
- Family

During 2017-2018, SSAN worked on these organizational and operating issues:

- Developed 4 SSAN newsletters
- Formalized the Application Process for SSAN Members

Each member is on at least one or more of the following workgroups:

- Employment
- Self Determination
- Newsletter
- Legislation

There were a total of 49 workgroup meetings

- Employment met 9 times
- Self Determination met 9 times
- Newsletter met 9 times
- Legislation met 6 times
- Officers met 16 times

Additionally, the SSAN Chair produced 4 summaries that kept members updated on current events and the work in progress

Resource Sharing

SSAN members distributed information about these resources to their communities:



Advocacy

Alta Regional Center

California Independent Living Centers

Choices

Supported Life Institute

California Foundation for Independent Living Centers

Self-Advocacy Council 6

UCLA Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills

Exceptional Minds

Strategies to Empower People (Step)

Family Resource Centers Network

Disability Organizing Network

Youth Organizing Disabled Proud

Regional Advisory Committees

Local People First chapters

Regional Centers

CHADD



Bullying

Department of Developmental Services

Silence = Violence Network



Education

Chaffey College, Rancho Cucamonga, CA

San Jose State University, San Jose, CA

Mission College, Santa Clara, CA

South Bay Points of Transition, San Diego, CA

Danza College, Cupertino, CA

Butte College

Libraries

American River College, Sacramento, CA

Los Rio Community College District

Disabled Student Programs and Activities

Sacramento State

Sacramento City College

Consumes River College

Sierra College

Folsom River College

Santa Monica College Center for Disabled Students

Chabad at Santa Monica College

SMC Computer Programing Club

~~UNEMPLOYED~~



Employment

Progressive Employment Concepts

Easter Seals of Sacramento

Work Training Center

Employment and Volunteer focused day program

Gone for Good

California Department of Rehabilitation

California Employment Development Department

Access 2 Independence



Health

Therapeutic Recreation Services

<https://apm.activecommunities.com/santaclara/>

Touch for Understanding

UC Davis Mind Institute

American Red Cross

JFS Chaverim

Foothill Community Medical and Dental Services

California Department of Mental Health

San Jose Parks and Rec, San Jose, CA

Disability Policy Seminar Income Maintenance Health Insurance Chart

Current Financing v. Block grants & per capita caps

Ainsley's Angels



Housing

Choices Supported Living Services
CHSS

South Bay Community Services

Subsidize Housing

Regional Centers

Housing NOW

Lanterman Housing Coalition

Department of Developmental Services

Resources for Independent Living Apartment Database

Home Ownership of Westside

Harbor Regional Center

Ability First Accessible Housing

Choices

Alta Regional Center

California Foundation for Independent Living Centers

Independent Living Centers

San Andreas Regional Center

Santa Monica Housing Authority

H.O.M.E. at Westside Regional Center

Housing Authority of Culver City

San Diego Department of Housing & Community Development

County Housing Authorities

Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP)

Housing and Urban Development



Rights

Los Angeles Medical Legal Rights for Children

The Learning Rights Center

Disability Rights California



Voting

Los Angeles Registrar of Voters

Los Angeles County Voting

League of Women Voters

San Diego Registrar of Voters

Leg Info



Safety

County Emergency Preparedness Committee

San Jose Emergency Managers Association
Access Dispatch

Access Transit

Project Second Chance

The ARC of Salano

Independent Living Centers

North Bay Regional Center

National Board of Repertory Care

South Central Los Angeles Regional Center

Adult Protective Services/Child Protected Services

Abuse and Neglect Training

How to Interact with Law Enforcement

Santa Clara Community Office of Emergency Preparedness

City of San Jose

Los Angeles County of Emergency Management

City of Los Angeles Department of Disability-Emergency Preparedness for People with Disabilities Manual – July 2016

Ready LA

City of Torrance – Disaster Readiness for People with Developmental or Cognitive Disabilities – National Organization on Disability Publication

Feeling Safe Being Safe DDS CAC Publication

DDS Emergency Preparedness Web Training

Sacramento County Emergency Services

“Stay Informed During an Emergency”

“Make an Emergency Kit”

“Emergency Preparedness Checklist”

Prepare Now

Fire Departments

LA County Emergency Services Program



Self-Determination Informational Resources

DDS Home and Community-Based Services Final Rule

Self-Determination Info from DDS

Target dates for Self-Determination



Information

CADRE

Warmline Family Resource Center

CTECH

Regional Centers

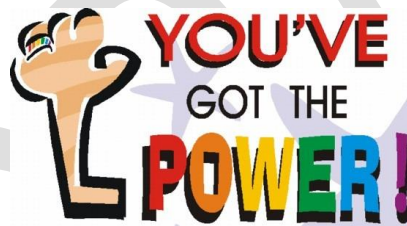
California LifeLine

Voice Options

Digital Access Project

How to Find out Who your Local Legislators Are

Call Connection



SSAN Members –Statewide Network 2015-2016

North Coast Office- Region 1



North State Office- Region 2 Teresa Moshier



Sacramento Office- Region 3 Lisa Cooley



North Bay Office- Region 4

Chen Curtiss



Bay Area Office- Region 5

Regina Woodliff



North Valley Hills Office- Region 6

Robert Balderama



Central Coast Office- Region 7



Sequoia Office- Region 8 Rebecca Donabed



Los Angeles Office- Region 9 Julie Gaona



Orange County Office- Region 10

Sean Sullivan



San Bernardino Office- Region 11

Daniel Fouste



San Diego Imperial Office- Region 12

Paul Mansell



AGENCY PARTNERS

Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA CAC) Desiree Boykin



California Foundation for Independent Living Centers Christina Mills



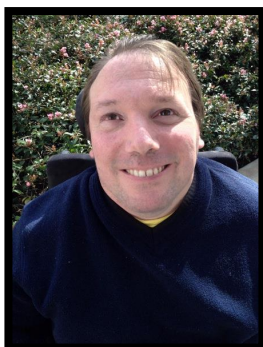
Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Nicole Patterson



Disability Rights California Scott Barron & Marinda Reed (Not pictured)



State Council on Developmental Disabilities David Forderer/Wesley Witherspoon



UCEDD UC Davis MIND Institute
Robert Levy



UCEDD UCLA Tarjan Center
Kecia Weller



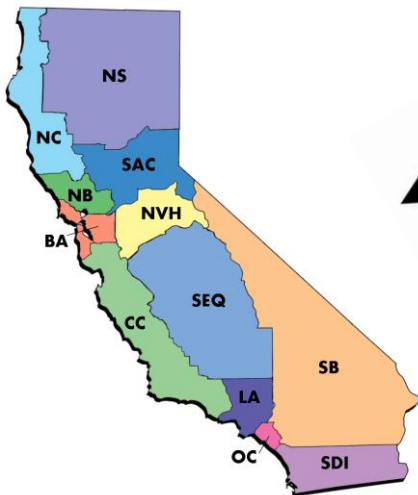
UCEDD USC Children's Hospital
Wesley Witherspoon



Statewide Activity HIGHLIGHTS from SSAN Members



- Participated at Regional Advisory Committees
- Participated at SCDD Meetings in Sacramento
- Participated on the SCDD Self Advocacy Advisory Committee
- Attended the following conferences-
 - Statewide Self Advocacy Conference in Sacramento
 - Supported Life Institute in Sacramento
 - PFCA Gatherings
 - CHOICES 2018 conference in Stockton
 - San Diego People First conference.
- Members are on their regional center boards, IHSS Public Authority, transportation boards, and People First groups.
- Wrote and sent their stories to their Legislators
- Completed 4 newsletters
- Transition Fairs and presentations made across the state



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WORK GROUP INFORMATION



SSAN established the following four workgroups on in 2014:

Employment Work Group Information

CHAIR- Rebecca Donabed/Lisa Cooley

At the September 2017 Full SSAN meeting members updated the workgroup Purpose, Goal, and Objective.

Purpose: The Employment workgroup will educate the community about the rights of people with disabilities and their ability to become contributing members of society by having competitive integrated employment.

Goal: To increase opportunities for people with disabilities to get meaningful and competitive integrated employment.

Measurable Objective: SSAN Members will reach out to at least 4 individuals/groups in one quarter to inform them about achieving gainful employment of the Cross Disability Community.



Legislative Work Group Information

CHAIR- Paul Mansell

At the September 2017 Full SSAN Meeting the Legislative Workgroup worked on revising the Purpose, Goal and Measurable Objective.

Purpose: The Legislative workgroup will inform and educate our partners and communities on statewide legislation that SCDD has taken a position.

Goal: Increase the community's awareness on legislation that may impact people with disabilities lives.

Measurable Objective: Develop materials that will increase the community's awareness and knowledge about bills that SCDD had taken a position.



Newsletter Work Group Information

CHAIR- Robert Levy (UCEDD Mind Institute)

At the September 2017 Full SSAN Meeting the Newsletter Workgroup worked on revising the Purpose, Goal and Measurable Objective.

Purpose: The Newsletter/Communication workgroup will highlight SSAN activities and upcoming conferences/events to communicate what SSAN is doing and how they are connected in the community.

Goal: Increase the community's awareness of how SSAN is promoting the self-advocacy movement within the state of California.

Measurable Objective: The Newsletter/ Communication workgroup will produce 4 newsletters highlighting SSAN's advocacy work throughout California.



Self-Determination Work Group Information

CHAIR- Nicole Patterson/Julie Gaona

At the September 2017 Full SSAN Meeting the Self Determination Workgroup worked on revising the Purpose, Goal and Measurable Objective.

Purpose: To increase the number of people in California that know about the self-determination program.

Goal: To increase self-advocates and their families, and the community's awareness of self-determination.

Measurable Objective: SSAN members will reach out in their communities to at least 3 individual groups per quarter to inform them about the new self-determination law.

- By providing individual information about self-determination
- By providing information by Power Point to different groups
- To identify groups that may benefit from a self-determination presentation
- Develop a tool to monitor how well the information is getting out to the community



From Desiree Boykin - representative from ARCA CAC

“In 2018 the SSAN members has had two main focuses: the California Self-Determination program and Employment. It is important that that we make sure all parents and adults understand the five principles of Self-Determination and support them in the program to make that a choice if they choose to. The SSAN members have also been concern about employment opportunities for all teen and adults wanting to work. At the SSAN June meeting we had panel of adults talk about the important of working full time part-time and volunteering your time. My past four years working with my fellow SSAN members has been a good learning experience.”



SSAN Plans for the Future For 2018-2019, SSAN officers identified these plans:

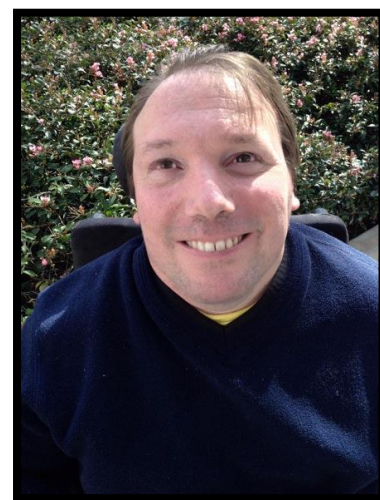
- ☐ **Communication** – Continue to produce SSAN newsletters to share information in SSAN meetings as well as with members’ local communities.
- ☐ **Legislative Advocacy** – Continue receiving valuable legislative information from SCDD to SSAN.
- ☐ **Training Development** – SSAN will develop a Train the Trainer series on various topics (Employment, Housing, Transition Aged Youth, and Self Determination) for SSAN members to go back to their communities to provide training. SSAN members can also train more trainers in their communities.
- ☐ **Networking** - Continue networking within SSAN, and network outside of SSAN with other agencies such as mental health services.

Words from two SSAN Members...



*I am a **Kecia Weller**, representative from the Tarjan Center at UCLA, and I've been involved with SSAN since 2012. The SSAN is a cross-disability training network that gives me the opportunity to learn a lot about interesting topics. At the September training, SSAN members participated in an all-day training from the Department of Developmental Services on Self-Determination. This was really neat because the California is starting their Self-Determination program. I am sure that the lucky individuals who got into the Self-Determination program will learn a tremendous amount about self-determination from the DDS training.*

*My name is **David Forderer**, representative from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. SSAN has allowed me to connect with other self-advocates like myself. I find it inspiring to hear about the struggles of other advocates and what they did to resolve their issues. I also have found the group has been a great place to share my advocacy struggles and how I accomplished positive results. Some of the guest speakers SSAN has invited to our meetings have presented some very powerful and information packed lectures”.*



Members in Action



SSAN members prepare for a panel presentation at a Statewide Conference in Sacramento.



SSAN Member Lisa Cooley presents at a statewide conference in Sacramento, CA.



SSAN members Chen Curtiss, Desiree Boykin and Robert Levy



SSAN members Nicole Patterson and Daniel Fouste

Members in Action Continued



SSAN Officers attend a training on leadership.




SSAN members participate in meetings.



SSAN members Daniel Foust, Sean Sullivan, and Robert Levy participate on a panel about Autism Spectrum Disorder.




SSAN members Kecia Weller, and Regina Woodliff pose with SSAN Chair Robert Balderama and Vice-Chair Julie Gaona attend a meeting



VOICES of SSAN

December 2017 Volume 11

Meet new SSAN Member
Scott Barron from Disability Rights California




I have been with Disability Rights California for 8 years empowering people with disabilities to advocate and protect their rights. I spent five years with the Developmental Disabilities Peer Self-Advocacy Unit coordinating trainings, developing materials and conducting individual advocacy on

numerous disability issues.

In December 2013, I became a part of the Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy as a Peer Advocate. As a Peer Advocate, I empower people with developmental disabilities to advocate for and protect their rights. I conduct advocacy trainings and develop client friendly materials. I also assist OCRA with communicating with their clients by meeting with clients to understand their needs and preparing them to advocate at their IP meetings. In the process, I build clients confidence and skills so they can

advocate for themselves more effectively in the future.



I have also served on numerous external and internal committees providing feedback on many disability issues. Currently, I am on various city and county voting rights committees.


In this edition of the Voices of SSAN

Meet new member

Upcoming Events

ACRE Training


1 | Page



VOICES of SSAN

March 2018 Volume 12

Meet new SSAN Member
Sean Sullivan from SCDD Orange County



Hi my name is Sean Sullivan.

In case you are not aware, I am the SCDD Orange County Regional Office Representative to SSAN!!

The reason why I joined SSAN is because I wanted to be part of a network that has members that has people who have similar philosophies and ideals that I do!

My main objective is to bring more

awareness to the autism community to and from this network and bring updates on my findings!

I have autism; refuse to allow my disability to defeat me, to conquer me and to define me!

I will never have time for failure and always have time for success; I will never have time for anything and or everything that is not benefiting for me, my life and my success!

Speaking of successes and happy times I am very happy to be part of this amazing network with many talented and caring individuals! Thank you!

In this edition of the Voices of SSAN

Meet new member


Upcoming Events

Meet SCDD's new Deputy Director of Policy- Cindy Smith




Check out the Statewide Self Advocacy Network (SSAN) webpage at www.scdd.ca.gov/selfadvocacy

Updated info on: Self Determination & the ABLE Act!




1 | Page



VOICES of SSAN

June 2018 Volume 13

People with Disabilities and Relationships
 By Wesley Witherspoon




Warning this article is for those who are 18 year old and older. People with disabilities who are 18 and over and who are not conserved have the right to date anyone who is 18 years old or older. The right to a relationship is your choice; you can also decide not to have a relationship as well. We have the right to love someone of your gender and a different gender. However,


most romantic relationships do not last. A relationship is when two people connect with one another. Romance is a feeling of excitement and mystery from love. A key to have a good relationship is the ability to compromise (the ability to give in to some of your demands to help your partner) there are people who want to have a relationship, but can't find a relationship. We understand that there are people out there who are disappointed because they are not in a relationship. As a self-advocate, we have to be realistic. More likely, you probably won't be dating a (Continued on page 2)

In this edition of the Voices of SSAN

Relationships Opportunity House Dignity of Work




Check out the Statewide Self Advocacy Network (SSAN) webpage at www.scdd.ca.gov/selfadvocacy



SSAN Newsletter Editor -Robert Levy Contributors to this edition: Chen Curtiss Paul Mansell Wesley Witherspoon

Next Volume: Self Determination Info!


1 | Page



VOICES of SSAN

September 2018 Volume 14

California Wildfires Devastating & Possible Resources
 By Robert Levy SSAN Rep from the UCEDD UCD MIND Institute



This year the state had major wildfires. As of October 3rd, about 1.5 million acres have burned across the state. The fires began in the middle of August. In the North Coast office area almost 459,000 acres has burned. In the Sequoia office area, a little bit over 100,000 acres has burned. In the San Bernardino office area almost 23,000 acres has burned. That fire was intentionally set by a human who was arrested for starting that fire. In the North

State office area the wildfire has burned little over 211,000 acres. The wildfire in Shasta County has burned over 6,000 acres. This is a bad fire season for another year. It is like it is now the norm for year round fire season.

Here are some links to resources:

California Conservation Corps
<https://ccc.ca.gov/>

California Department of Fish and Game and Wildlife
<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/>


California Department of Forestry & Fire protection
<http://www.ca.gov/Agencies/Forestry-Fire-Protection-California-Department-of>

(Continued on page 2)


In this edition of the Voices of SSAN

A Day on the Job

Self-Advocacy & Health



Check out the Statewide Self Advocacy Network (SSAN) webpage at www.scdd.ca.gov/selfadvocacy



SSAN Newsletter Editor -Robert Levy

Contributors to this edition:
 Chen Curtiss
 Robert Levy
 Paul Mansell
 Teresa Moshier
 Nicole Patterson
 Regina Woodliff

1 | Page

Full SSAN Newsletters can be found at
www.scdd.ca.gov/self-advocacy/SSAN

Please check out www.scdd.ca.gov
 Go to the Self-Advocacy tab and hit SSAN overview for more SSAN info!

